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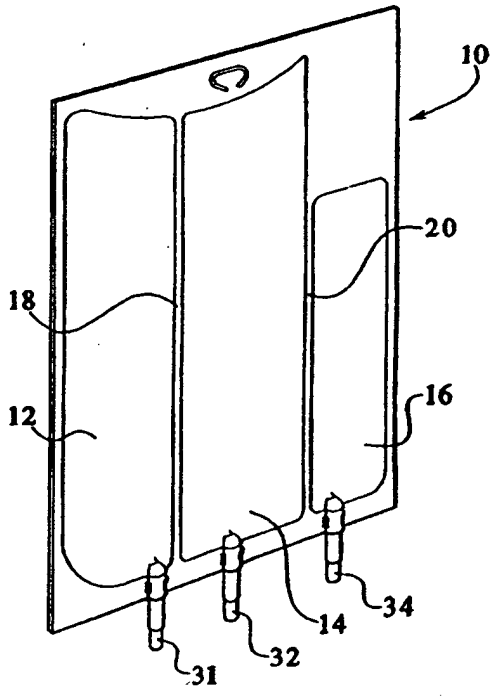
(54) Title: CONTAINERS AND METHODS FOR STORING AND ADMIXING MEDICAL SOLUTIONS

(57) Abstract

Containers and methods for storing medical solutions are provided. More specifically, containers and methods for storing components that are to be admixed together to create a final solution, one of the components comprising a lipid. In an embodiment, a container including an interior defining at least two chambers. The first chamber includes a lipid containing liquid. The second chamber includes a liquid that does not include a lipid. The first and second chambers are separated by an openable seal.



10. The container of Claim 1 wherein the liquid in the first chamber is a lipid emulsion.

11. A container comprising a body constructed from a flexible plastic material that does not include polyvinyl chloride, the body defining a chamber that includes a lipid containing liquid.

12. A container comprising:

a body constructed from a flexible plastic material that does not include polyvinyl chloride, the body defining at least a first and second chamber;

the first chamber including a lipid containing liquid;

a second chamber including a liquid that includes at least one component selected from the group consisting of: amino acids; dextrose; vitamins; and electrolytes; and

an openable seal located between the first and the second chambers.

13. The container of Claim 12 wherein the openable seal is a peelable seal.

14. The container of Claim 12 including three separate chambers separated by two openable seals.

15. The container of Claim 12 wherein each of the first and second chambers includes an access port to allow selective fluid communication with the chamber.

16. A method for providing nutrition to a patient comprising the steps of:

providing a container including at least two chambers, a first chamber including a first lipid containing liquid and a second chamber including a second liquid that does not include a lipid, the chambers being separated by an openable seal;

opening the seal between the first and second chambers;

mixing the first and second liquids within an interior of the container; and

administering a resultant liquid to a patient.

17. The method of Claim 16 wherein the container includes three chambers and a third liquid in a third chamber.

18. The method of Claim 16 wherein the resultant liquid is administered parenterally to the patient.

19. A method for providing hyperalimentation to a patient comprising the steps of:

providing a multi-chambered container including a lipid component, a dextrose component, and an amino acid component, each of the components being housed in a separate chamber of the multi-chambered container;

mixing the components in an interior of the container; and

administering a resultant fluid to a patient.

20. The method of Claim 19 wherein the resultant fluid is administered parenterally to a patient.

21. A method for providing hyperalimentation solutions to a healthcare facility comprising the steps of:

providing a multi-chambered container;

filling one of the chambers with a liquid including a lipid;

filling a separate of the chambers with a liquid including amino acids;

filling a different of the chambers with a liquid including dextrose; and

providing the multi-chambered container to a healthcare facility.

22. The method of Claim 21 wherein the chambers are filled substantially simultaneously.

23. The method of Claim 21 wherein the amino acids are first filled into the container.

24. The method of Claim 21 wherein the dextrose is first filled into the container.

25. The method of Claim 21 including the step of sterilizing a filled container.

26. The method of Claim 25 wherein the filled container is autoclaved.